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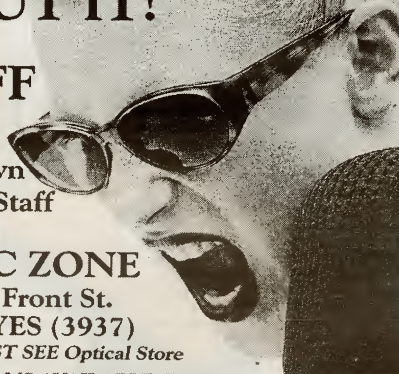
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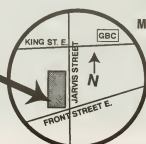
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about ten or fifteen kilometers before a plowman's lunch (consisting of a fine English Cheddar sandwich and assorted pickle) at that dreaded thatched-roof inn. In the early afternoon we would find yet another inn or bed and breakfast, settle down, then hike into the nearest village to the pub for steak and kidney pie washed down with some real English ale. It seemed to go on forever and it was so addictive I almost missed my plane.

So here I am back in the student lounge. The food, drink and new friends met are only a memory that luckily I have managed to record in my diary. If you have any cash available...travel. You will wonder so much you will learn why you never tried it before. Don't be afraid, be cautious. Read a lot of books and check out all the web sites. Try Travel Cuts. They are affiliated with the CFS and have a lot to offer student travellers.



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for everyone to be focusing on my age as any sort of indicator of what I'm going to be bringing," she said. "I think I can add another facet that hasn't already been covered."

Her supporters agree that age isn't what's important. "What counts is intellectual maturity, not chronological age," said Sgt. Chuck Konkel, a liaison officer between Toronto police and the board. "I think she has great potential as any citizen would."

"This is a position that a lot of people applied for," he added. "If she was selected by council then she met their test."



# diagnosis

by Colin Adams

**T**he law on impaired driving is both strict and comprehensive: if you are demonstrably impaired, or have more than 80 milligrams of alcohol per 100ml. of blood in your system, and are sitting in the driver's seat of a vehicle, you can be charged with a criminal offence.

You don't have to be driving; the car doesn't have to be running or even capable of running; you can be fast asleep and still be charged.

The same goes, with minor variations for trains and boats and planes. If the police demand it, you must give them a breath sample, both at the roadside and back at the station. If you fail or refuse, you may be charged with an offence subject to the same penalties as impaired driving. If you can't give breath, you can be required to give blood. If you leave the scene of an accident — you guessed it — another charge with the same range of penalties.

## The consequences

If an officer has reasonable and probable grounds to believe you're impaired or "Over 80", you will be arrested on the spot. You may be handcuffed and your car towed away. You will be taken to a nearby police station, breathalysed and charged. Depending on your condition and behaviour, you may then be released or kept overnight in a cell.

If you are convicted, you will have a criminal record, with all the attendant problems of getting a passport, being bonded, crossing borders etc. If this is your first offence, the absolute minimum sentence that a judge in Ontario can impose is a one-year suspension of your driver's licence and a three hundred dollar fine.

\* If you blow over 200 milligrams/ 100ml. of blood, you may well get a jail sentence as well. If you repeat any of the offences mentioned above you will get a minimum of fourteen days in jail, and if you injure someone you can get up to ten years.

A lawyer will charge you anywhere from \$1000.00 up, to defend a first offence. Paralegals are not necessarily cheaper. If you are convicted, your car insurance will probably cost you three to four times as much for the next five years.

The best cure is prevention; don't drink and drive at all.

But — if you are stopped, it's in your best interests to exercise your rights which are, simply put, as follows:

If you are stopped in a car for any reason, the Highway Traffic Act requires that you provide the officer with your license, proof of ownership and insurance.

If you are in an accident you

must also provide an account including details of any personal injuries or property damage. You are not however required to tell the officer if you've been drinking or how much. You are not required to perform sobriety tests such as walking a line, touching your nose or standing with your eyes closed, and even if you are sure you are sober, you should refuse these tests.

You are entitled to speak to a

lawyer at the earliest available point in the proceedings.

(Usually when you get to the police station.) Do so. If you don't know a lawyer, ask to speak to Duty Counsel — a free

## The wages of gin

lawyer available 24/7 — who answers a lot of these calls and is familiar with the law. As a general rule, outside of the HTA requirements the less you say, the better. You don't have to admit that you were driving, or what route you took or when you were driving, or when you left the pub or party, or who was with you, what you were drinking or when you had your last drink or how

you paid for it, or whether you are on medication or how much sleep you got last night. All of these are important items of evidence that may be used to convict you. It's important to understand however that while you have every right to remain silent, deliberately lying or misleading the police is a crime in itself. It's very difficult, but the best advice is to say — most politely — "I'm sorry officer - I don't feel comfortable answering your questions without a lawyer present." You may have to keep saying this — they can be very persistent. Just remember, once you are charged, nothing you say is going to get you uncharged, and the police will use every admission they can extract to ensure a conviction.

If you are charged, most criminal lawyers will be happy to give you an opinion without an initial fee.

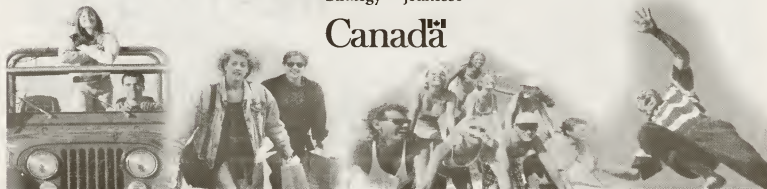
Once again, the best advice I can give you is don't risk it. Leave your car at home. Designate a non-drinking driver; give him or her lots of praise and be prepared to reciprocate fairly. Remember, the reason the law is so comprehensive and inflexible is because drinking and driving kills and cripples a lot of innocent people.

Colin Adams is a criminal lawyer who practices with Hicks Block Adams Derstine at 103 Charles Street East, Toronto M4Y 1V2 (416) 975-1700

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# urban transit legends

## AN OUT-OF-TOWNER'S GUIDE TO THE TTC by Bont Barter

As a veteran TTC rider there are some helpful strategies I would like to pass along. This guide may help some of you new-to-Toronto students avoid traumatic experiences while using public transportation. Also, you experienced riders might want to listen in, in case there are some new pointers you can pick up that might prove beneficial to your transit experience.

### TIP #1:

Well, we shall start at the beginning. It is illegal to smoke on TTC property. Some people break this law. No one, to my knowledge has ever been arrested on a bus platform. However you could be forcibly removed from a streetcar by a rabid health freak should you attempt to light up whilst in motion. For those of you who ARE the rabid healthy folk, I strongly suggest you use your intuitive senses while on bus platforms before requesting that said law-breaker extinguish his/her smoke. For example, it may not be in your own best interest to confront smokers who have chains and safety pins attached various body muscles that you have not discovered on your own body. Second-hand smoke takes much longer to kill you than do switchblades so before making a decision, carefully weigh your priorities.

### TIP #2:

Your next maneuver will be to choose a seat. This may appear to be a simple operation but it can actually be quite an exercise in complex anthropological nuances. There are some subtle strategies you might want to become aware of. Never sit behind a woman when you can already smell her two-dollar-a-gallon patchouli oil as soon as the streetcar door opens. Not only may she be looking for a new mate of either sex while still married to a murderously jealous spouse, but you

are sure to exit two stops later with a roaring migraine.

It is also important not to sit next to someone who is having an animated conversation with an imaginary friend. Firstly, you may be sitting next to someone whose emotional stability in a

effectively alleviate this problem.

### TIP #4:

Do not pet guide dogs. Firstly, because they're working [nice job, napping on the bus, if you can get it--hey, where do I apply?] but also, if the bus lurches and



Illustration by Daniel Caligiuri - Dialog

crowded venue is questionable. Secondly, you may be sitting in the imaginary friend's lap. After all, since life after death has never really been disproved, we really don't want to take the chance now, do we?

### TIP #3:

KEEP YOUR HEAD UP AT ALL TIMES! This is an important lesson in all self-defense courses. Contrary to popular opinion it is not because you may be mugged. The previously unannounced reason is that during animated conversations, George Brown students standing in the aisle next to your seat have a habit of accidentally whacking you in the head with their backpacks when you aren't paying attention. Knowledge of good karate blocking techniques will

you stomp on his paw--he'll bite you! Try explaining why you are late and covered in bite marks to your psyche instructor or inebriate spouse.

### TIP #5:

Avoid sitting in the middle on a three seater subway bench with people on either side who are speaking a foreign language to each other. They simply will not understand when you become frustrated as they ignore you and proceed to talk over the top of your head. It is not considered mannerly to yell at them, "I had one too ladies, but the wheels fell off!" Some people do not share your sense of humor. Remember, purses are full of heavy items such as keys, romance novels and extra deodorant. Standing in the aisle

for half an hour will not take as much time out of your busy school schedule as a trip to St. Mike's with a concussion.

### TIP #6:

When getting off the bus, do not ring the bell when you see the stop. You are now one stop too late. Keep in mind that bus drivers are chosen for their cautious natures. They are not like surprises.

When getting off, start early. Considerate people do not use the elderly in the aisles to improve their bowling scores. According to the Canadian Bowling Association, knocking down 9 old ladies so you can get off in time will not improve your seasonal average.

If the bus door does not open at the back immediately when you step on it, do not cast aspersions on the marital status, or sexual habits of the bus driver's mother. It is considered much more polite in Torontonians society to madly wave your arms, jump up and down on the offending step and scream crude descriptive words pertaining to the sexual and defecation processes. This is how children learn to model effective adult behaviour.

### TIP #7:

ALWAYS look out of the door before you exit. Invariably there will be some idiot arguing with his wife on a cell phone who will either try to use you for an original hood ornament or a commercial driver hoping to acquire extra artistic points for having your intestines as subtle Picasso-esque statement on the side of his/her van.

### TIP #8:

You're reading this so it is unlikely you are in a hospital or mental institution from your experience. You're still alive--so stop complaining!



Great for parties

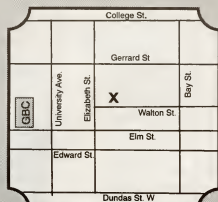
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had enough yet? Just about the entire student body showed up for the most spectacular Rock the Block yet! The party started early with blatin' games like laser tag in a blow up space ship and jousting on bar stools and climbing a virtual mountain. No one could believe how much fun it is to climb up the side of a blow-up plastic mountain with the only thing holding you up being a canvas harness. When I tried it,



I got to just above everyone's head, but lots of people made it to the top! Jon Todd made it his business to get everyone jousting, and although I didn't try it because I'm against physical violence, it garnered quite a bit of loud audience support.

So did the basketball challenge upstairs on the upper deck. Even though it was blasting hot up there, it didn't stop the hot shots at the hoop. Speaking of shots...If the **Dialog lensmatters** caught you at the fete and you would like a copy, drop by room 159A and we'll give you a copy of the print for reprint charges and a \$2.00 donation to our favourite charity. Right now our charity is the **AIDS walk** set for September 27th. Drop by to sponsor a Dialog walker.

Also, I'd like to mention about the food. It was great. The hot dogs were jumbo. The **Student Association** sure knew how to put on a party! After lunch

the main attraction took

# in the city

the stage, **The Rockin' Highliners** were an rock-blues fusion band who played all the standbys and added a few of their own.

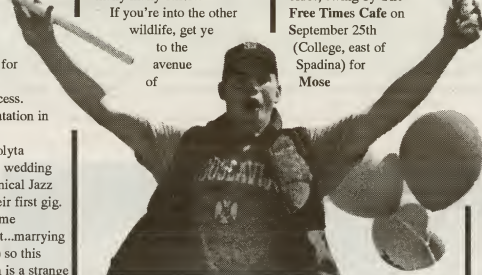
I'd just like to thank the SA and all the volunteers for making **Rock the Block** such a success.

You're on a plantation in Louisiana where Thesus and Hippolyta are planning their wedding where the Mechanical Jazz band will play their first gig. It's Mardi Gras time (suspicious isn't it...marrying just before Lent?) so this stage presentation is a strange twist to Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream* presented by **Upstart Crow Theatre Group** at nearby **Lab on Britain Street**. September 16-20, 23-27, and 30 - October 3 (410-2186 Students \$10, and it's always Pay What You Can on Sundays)

Got **Animal Magnetism**? Good, 'cause that's the name of the fund raiser for **Animal Alliance of Canada** on Thursday September 24 at Reverb and Holy Joe's, 651 Queen Street West (462-9541) Dig the celebrity

auction with items from **The Tragically Hip**, **Smashing Pumpkins**, **Bryan Adams**, **Iggy Pop**, **Rowan Atkins** (not little Teddy???) and many many others.

If you're into the other wildlife, get ye to the avenue of



University on October 24th and get a chance to do a portage to **Queen's Park**. It seems the sleazy dopes who are currently occupy the Big Pink want to sell off the provinces crown lands, Pave paradise, put up a parking lot. You can get to the Red River but not by portage. **Crow's Theatre and Native Earth Performing Arts** present **Red River**, a story on the founding of Manitoba and the martyrdom of Louis

Riel. September 23 - October 11 at the **Factory Theatre Studio Cafe** (504-9971).

Also of interest is the Lecture by **John Kim Bell**, President and Founder of the **National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation**. October 8 at 2pm at the St James campus. This is part of

the sights and sounds of the city series sponsored by **The City College and your Student Association**.

If your choice is folk or blues, swing by **The Free Times Cafe** on September 25th (College, east of Spadina) for **Mose**

6300) **Ontario Place** (314-9990) and all the marvelous neighbourhood that is our city such as **Yorkville** (928-3553), **Greektown** (469-5634), **Entertainment District** (397-0815) and many others that don't have phone numbers. Stay away from **the Beaches**.

On a more serious note, sometimes during the school year you might find that expenses exceed income. Our **Food Bank** will be opening on Monday September 21. If you need some help contact the **Student Association** at your campus for a food order sheet. If you're okay that way, why not consider volunteering some time.

So this is the last time I'm going to tell you...don't forget the **Boat Cruise**. This is a semi-formal event where 300 people can party hearty. Cruise the fabulous Toronto Islands. Tickets are \$25, and it includes an all you can eat gourmet buffet. They are

**Scarlett** with special guests **Jim Condie and Tam White**. Mose has been around the folk scene since **Bruce Cockburn** was playing at **The Riverboat** in Yorkville. Don't miss this legend in his own free time.

If you could use a laugh, and just about everyone can,



then head on over to **Yuk-Yuk's Superclub** (2335 Yonge 967-6425). See **Winston Spears**, veteran CBC comic and all round deadpan guy. Don't tell him you saw it here.

There are a couple of last chancers for the season things you might want to do before the snow fall (yes, there will be a winter.) **Centreville Amusement Park** on the **Toronto Islands** (203-0405), **Harbourfront Centre** (973-

going fast so don't wait, sail on down to the SA office.

Just when you can't stand the debt anymore, we are pleased to announce **Finance Awareness Week**, September 28 to October 2nd. Your chance to ask the banks why they don't advertise in **Dialog** before they all amalgamate into one.

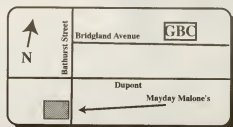
If you thought this issue was a lark, just wait till the **Food and Bar Guide** issue hitting the stands on October 13th.



# Mayday Malone's

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Opinions expressed in Dialog are not necessarily those of the Dialog Collective, the Student Association of George Brown College, or its editorial staff. Dialog will not publish any material that attempts to incite violence or hatred against individuals or groups particularly based on race, national origin, ethnicity, colour, gender, sexual orientation, age or disabilities.

IT HAPPENED TO  
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SOMEONE YOU KNOW...  
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INITIATION

URBAN LEGEND  
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IN THEATRES SEPTEMBER 25



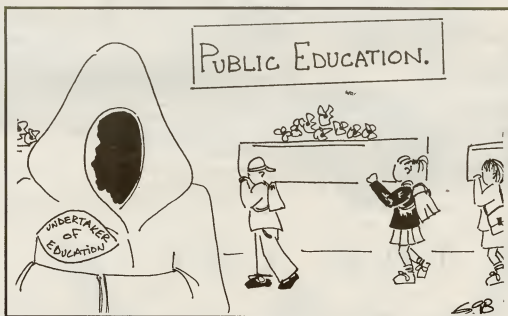
# diaLOG

by Allan Stokell  
Editor-in-Chief  
Dialog

**y**ou may have already read Janet Morrison's column elsewhere on this page. If you have not, read it now.

Janet has called for the boycott of one of the businesses in our neighbourhood. I am not at all unfamiliar with boycotts. I was there for the California grape boycott, I was removed from Loblaw's during the South Africa boycott. I still don't eat Kraft cheese and right now I wouldn't touch a Maple Leaf wiener if it had my name on it.

That said, I am familiar with the business in question and I believe everything she says is true. But wait. We are part of a community. Our community is like an extended family. We don't always agree with other family members, but we don't exclude them from our gatherings. I think the best way of dealing with a curmudgeonly family member is



to make sure they are involved in every aspect of community life. I come to the Student Association with 17 years of experience running a small business, I did not arrive from academia, so I know how business people operate and think.

In June, when I was just starting as editor of this community paper, I called upon our neighbours around each campus. For the most part they were pleased to talk to me. They said almost without exception "No one has come around before just

to say hello. This is so nice!" As in every community and every family there was one exception. As children we were warned "don't bother Uncle Freeze, he doesn't like children." Sadly our Uncle Freeze is right across the road from the St. James campus.

When I visited him in June he was upset because he believed that all we did at GBC was to offer courses for 'welfare mothers'. I told him that some of our students were welfare mothers and they were taking courses to improve the quality of their lives and their children's. The reality is that the students of this college on average have a relatively high disposable income. If they don't now they will have upon graduation. Alumnists go on to successful careers. Many are self employed and start their businesses upon graduation. Anyone with a modicum of business acumen realize that they have found the motherlode. Just look at our newspaper. It is full of advertising from businesses that know that there is a lucrative student market.

Near my house there was a convenience store that sported a hand-written sign: "WE DON'T SELL TTC TICKETS." Obviously, the harassed owner was constantly bothered by people asking for transit tickets. His response was to keep people from bothering him by telling them not to come into his store. His play worked because now the shop is empty. All those people who wanted TTC tickets went to the shop with the sign: "WE SELL TTC TICKETS."

I can't change one person's opinion. Janet Morrison would like to make a point, and I agree that a boycott is the best way to make that point. Our neighbour would like to make a point too, but I can't agree that we are the bad neighbours in this dispute. We are the reason most businesses thrive along the strips near each campus. On the other hand, this is a community paper and I am very inclusive when it comes to community outreach.

So I leave it to you. If you think the used furniture shop owner is out of place, you could just leave him alone. But GBC students like a good party so let's invite him to next year's Rock the Block and this time someone should ask him to dance.



## planet janet

Janet Morrison, Executive Director  
George Brown College Student Association

**a**fter having slept through most of the weekend, I returned to work on Monday refreshed and full of enthusiasm in the aftermath of "Rock the Block" — the giant street party hosted by the Student Association on George Street last Friday, September 11th. Having only worked at George Brown College for nine months, I was particularly pleased with this event and the opportunity it afforded for diverse members of our learning community to converse and socialize within an atmosphere designed specifically to celebrate who we are and

what we do. Hooray for GBC! On a personal note, I was moved by the volunteerism of fifty students, staff and faculty who worked at barbecue stations, provided security, washed dishes, moved equipment and supervised games. We couldn't have hoped for more help — particularly from a community routinely criticized for being apathetic. Thanks to one and all for their support. The event was an enormous success because of our collective efforts. The Student Association purposefully billed this event as one designed for the entire community. Toward that end, we invited

residents and merchants from the surrounding neighborhood to attend. All but one store owner were very positive and embraced our efforts enthusiastically. Regrettably, however, one local businessman decided to complain vocally to our staff and the City. While a majority of his issues involved things beyond our control, including parking, traffic flow, noise levels and past violations of city by-laws by parties unrelated to us ... I was perturbed and dismayed by his attitude toward students. In three conversations with S.A. staff, he characterized learners at this College in extremely negative terms and expressly asked that they not enter his establishment... period, no exceptions. My response to this is simple: Students are a vital and fundamental part of the economy. Despite the unacceptable increases in

cost associated with higher education, college students have cash to spend and are major consumers of product. At a college like George Brown — which caters to adult learners — this is particularly true. It is simply unacceptable for a local merchant to express this level of disrespect toward such a substantial client base.

In response to the owner's request, I'm advising students not to set foot in Office and Shop Furniture at 181 King Street East. Don't spend a dime there. Frequent their competition and spend lavishly. You can bet your ass that I'll never set foot inside that store. Students provide my livelihood (in more ways than one). If they aren't welcome in an establishment, neither am I.

## letters

Re: Inappropriate Behaviour by Joe Trotter, Summer Issue

First of all, the only one who sounds like a dweeb here is you. As for being ignorant you top them all. How can you stereotype people from the suburbs, especially when it's obvious that you have no idea of how the people in the suburbs live. Just so you know I'm a middle-class 18 years old girl from the suburbs. I have lived my whole life in the Durham Region and was brought up with "typical middle-class" privileges. I live

with my mother, father, and older brother in a two story, four bedroom house with a pool in the backyard. My parents do not own a truck, they have a mini-van, before that was a station wagon. I guess the only thing we are missing is a dog and a white picket fence. Just so you know my "Daddy" doesn't build malls, and I don't have my own credit card and my parents did not buy me a Beamer or 4-Wheeler. By the way none of my friends from the suburbs have that either. As for middle-class values, I'll tell you what my parents instilled in me, it may sound lame, but it's true. Treat others the way you want to be treated, to have an open-mind, to voice your opinion, money doesn't grow on

trees, to support myself and not to stereotype others, hence the saying "Don't judge a book by it's cover." Just so you know, I do have my own car, it's not a Beamer and "Daddy" didn't buy it for me. It's a 1990 Sprint that I worked my ass off for. I am still working to pay for insurance, gas and it's upkeep, while going to school at the same time. Just because people live in the suburbs doesn't mean they are complete airheads or naive, you know we have escalators out here too! Thanks for the advice about keeping away with people with guns and there's no reason to own a gun out here either. Also we know not to share fluids, we do hear about AIDS and STD'S way

out here in the "boonies", you know what, it's out here too, it's not just a "big city" thing. You know what I hate is the looks you can get when you ask someone for directions. Give us a break, don't judge us based on a small group of people you may have met from the suburbs and please don't assume that when a person does something dumb or ignorant they must be from the suburbs. I know that suburbanites wouldn't have a problem or look down on you if you ever asked them for directions.

From Suburbia.  
(Name withheld)



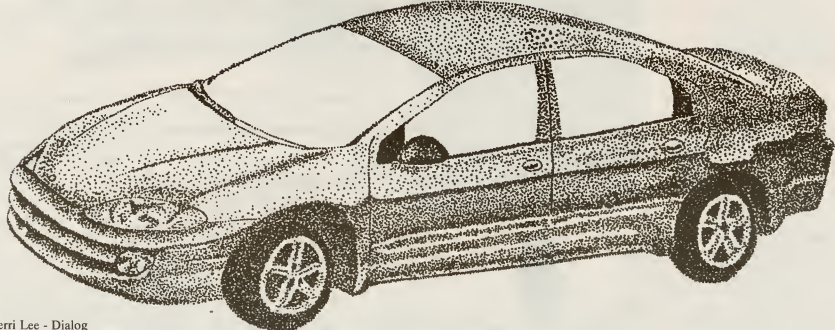


Illustration by Terri Lee - Dialog

## When the car is king

by Allan Stokell

One thing that almost everyone can agree on is that in North America, the car is king! Our love affair with the automobile seems to have started almost at the same time that Henry Ford's 'tin lizzie' started rolling off the assembly line in motor town. Previously the horse-less carriage had been an unreliable and expensive curiosity.

These first cars, often converted to trucks for more cargo room, changed the world forever. Roads that had been considered perfectly adequate for horse and cart travel had to be upgraded for higher speed car travel. Soon a network of high-speed roads criss-crossed North America and by the nineteen thirties it was possible to drive from the Atlantic to the Pacific...if you enjoyed a bit of an adventure.

Not too many people objected to the advent of the automobile age. The improvement of the road network was one plus. But the automobile actually allowed an insidious small change to take place in western society. The ability to travel great distances in a relatively short period of time allowed people to live in one town and work in another. The era of suburbia had arrived and it was driven there by Mr. Ford and Mr. Chevrolet.

What followed was too ugly for an urban mind to imagine. The excesses of the nineteen fifties and sixties suburban architecture is yet now visiting a visual curse upon our eyes. Rows of style-less and similar box housing. Big garages were the centrepiece of the modern home front. In years past a veranda with a swing was the norm. Now two and three car garages dwarfed the frontage. Shopping malls were built so people could drive to spend their cash. People even drove into movie theatres in open lots, parked their cars and enjoyed a Doris Day movie without leaving the comfort of their sofa like car seats.

To support the excesses of the automobile our politicians helped break up city neighbourhoods by expropriating land to build expressways to the suburbs. The urban landscape was left to the poor and disadvantaged. Neighbourhood were split

by noisy, dangerous expressways.

These excesses carried on through the sixties until whole new planned communities spread around large cities. Whole cities that didn't exist a decade before sprang up. Mississauga is a prime example of what our politicians called "a planned community." It doesn't take much of a seasoned

stockbroker with an office on King Street near the college. Both Margaret and Joel come into Toronto daily, both at different times. They need two cars. When Margaret shops near their home, she must take the car even for short trips because often there are no sidewalks on the streets and even though the posted speed limits are 50 kph, most vehicles including large

high-speed automobile travel is dangerous for the driver, passengers and the environment.

"Just try to take a driver out of his car!" states Joel. "They will kill you, it would start a revolution!"

So this is where we stand. On the threshold of a revolution. There is a new urban dweller in Canada's cities today. Their dream is not to live in the suburbs with 1.3 children and 2.1 cars. They are professional, they are educated and they are vocal. Urbanites use their cars less, many do not own one by choice. They have decided the convenience of city life vastly outweighs the drudgery of the suburban commute. They take transit alternatives. Many bike, walk or take streetcars to work. None of those cause pollution and each one supports a healthy lifestyle. These new urbanites are also more vocal about not supporting the excesses of their suburban cousins. Peter and Jorge are one urban couple. They own a house downtown. Jorge bikes to work while Peter walks. "We used to have a car, but it didn't make economic sense with our lifestyle," Peter states. "We used it to go shopping and get away for weekends. We don't have a driveway, so parking was a nightmare. Now we get a taxi for shopping or going to work on bad weather days and rent a car for the get aways. When we want one, we've got a brand new shiny one. When we don't need it we send it back. No insurance hassles, no maintenance. It was a smart move." With the extra money they have been saving, this young professional couple take expensive European vacations instead of second mortgages.

We've followed the automobile from the beginning of its' popularity to the present day excesses of its suburban lifestyles it supports. There seems no doubt that change is coming. Some soothsayers will tell you that change will come in the form of electric vehicles. Others point to stranger alternatives such as fuel cells. If that is so, the commute will have to be an expensive, slower, closer one, as current alternatives cannot compete with the specs of the modern internal combustion engine. Perhaps suburbanite Joel is right. It will take a revolution to get us out of our cars.

### share-a-car

by Joe Trotter

many of you know that when I lived in the suburbs I was desperately unhappy. So was just about everyone else I knew in that former life. One of the reasons my parents were so unhappy was because they had to keep two cars running. It cost them a quarter of their income just to drive us from friends houses to the hockey practice to the mall. Dad drove into town and back five and sometimes six days a week. He was a slave to our lifestyle and especially the automobile. By the time my sister and I graduated from high school there were four cars in the driveway and four huge headaches. My father credits these cars for keeping him from going to church on Sunday.

In an effort to keep the costs under control, he would spend the entire day changing oil, repairing and maintaining all four aging cars. Looking back it would have been better if he'd gone to church. When the car my parents gave me blew up, I had it towed away and swore I would never own a car again. No longer would I be a slave to the automobile. I will be able to travel, not just to Don Mills but to Europe and the Orient, do expensive drugs, or just invest each year in an RRSP.

When I need a car, I just phone my car share company and reserve one. I have a key to a box in a neighbouring parking lot that allows me access to the key of the car I've been assigned. It cost me a \$500 refundable deposit to join up and about \$70. for every 250km I travel. Not bad eh? Because if I owned this car, a year old Toyota, it would have cost me just under \$20 thousand with tax and licencing (or about \$300, a month). Then there is maintenance, fuel and parking.

When you live in the city like I do you can add another \$3000 a year. If I travel an average of 2000 km per year, that comes to \$3.30 per km. The grand total per 250km is \$825 if I owned the car. Quite a difference isn't there?

I pity you guys who are still stuck in the burbs. I live in the city. I walk to work and when I do want to get out of town, or go shopping at Ikea, then I just get a share-car when I need one and only pay for it when I need it. This isn't a new idea. In Europe this has been a practical way of dealing with the car need/use trap for years. In Switzerland there are 20,000 members sharing a thousand cars in 600 different locations. In Canada there are car share companies in Quebec, Victoria and Vancouver.

So if you don't live in the city, start thinking about it. If you do and own a car think about sharing. It only makes sense.

observer to see the real plan was for developer profit and not for citizen convenience and pleasure.

Joel and Margaret live in Mississauga. Margaret is a part-time student at George Brown College, St James Campus. Joel is

trucks travel much faster.

On average it takes forty minutes for them to travel from their suburban home to the city. Joel likens that to working an hour and a half-unpaid overtime a day. An extra days work a week. And he points out that



# brown, GEORGE

## Getting a Connection

# The Mentor Program at GBC

By Anne Marie Cornacchia

Take time from the hustle and bustle of orientation and come and visit us at the Alumni Affairs office located in Room -113 (beside the cafeteria) at the St. James Campus and register in our Mentor Program. This program is open to all full-time students in a diploma or

certificate program.

What is The Mentor Program? The Mentor Program is a free service linking students and George Brown College Alumni, who through their professional and personal experience can offer guidance, provide possible career options and give practical advice on the realities of the workplace.

How can this program help

me? In the era of networking, when most jobs are unadvertised whom you know is more important than ever. The purpose of this program is to give our students the opportunity to discuss their education and career goals with one of our most valuable resources, our alumni. Through their knowledge and experience, alumni are able to offer valuable

advice relating to their professional fields.

Graduates from Science & Technology, Hospitality, Community Services and Business volunteer to mentor students in the same field by offering their unique insights in the job market, sharing their daily routine through job shadowing or just passing along industry tips. In 1997, we stepped into cyberspace. An Information Systems graduate who works for IBM, in Chicago, helped students get ahead by mentoring through e-mail!

Students' needs may vary. While some may only require 2 or 3 information meetings with their mentor, others may want to meet with them on an ongoing basis throughout the school year. Desktop Publishing student Michael Thomas, matched with Graphic Arts mentor Carol Berry, had praise for his mentor's help and advice in advancing his goal of producing a book. Career and Work Counselor student Mary MacDonald got her second year placement through her mentor. Both expressed praise and appreciation for the opportunities they received as a result of having participated in the program.

Don't take our word for it. The following are comments from

students who have enrolled in the Mentor Program.

"I believe this is an excellent program."

"I think it's a very valuable experience to meet with people already in the field with knowledge, tips, info, type of work etc."

"This program should be more widely discussed as an option and offered all year long. Teachers should let students know about this and to talk to someone before you enter. The program could also be very helpful."

"You can learn so much and it helps build self-confidence."

"I consider myself extremely fortunate to have such a great mentor. Thanks for having this wonderful program."

"I think that the Mentor Program provides an invaluable link between education and the work world and I hope that this program continues in the years to come."

If you have any questions, please contact Anne Marie in the Alumni Office at (416) 415-2535. Any suggestions or feedback about the Mentor Program is welcome.

On behalf of the Alumni Association, I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome new and returning students to George Brown College.

## diaLOG

by Stephen Flett

### version 2.0

A semi-regular column on Academic Affairs, and whatever else happens to be floating around Steve's head.

Well, well, well. Here we are all back at school again.

Ah yes, I remember it well...the stress, the lack of sleep, the filthy bathrooms...Welcome to GBC! Here are some Survival Tips from your DAA that may seem redundant to the seasoned veterans amongst you, but, then again, maybe not....

First, just a quick explanation of where I'm coming from: I'm your (acting) Director of Academic Affairs on the Student Association here at George Brown, which means I try to focus on academic matters of concern to students. Sounds rather nebulous I know. In practice, it means that amongst my many other SA tasks, I am a good person to speak with about academic affairs. Ask me questions or get some advice. I can also speak for your behalf, if that's what you wish.

It seems as if I've been involved with education all my life: many years as a student at George Brown College (Graphics, Accounting, and now Information Systems), John Abbott College CEGEP (Social Sciences), Queen's University (Drama, Psychology), the British American Acting Academy in London England, and others. I've also coached, directed, taught, and tutored. Phew! I get tired just writing it all down! So, hopefully, I have some perspective on all this "ivory tower" stuff.

Okay, here we go. Some Survival Tips as promised: I'll state it again. I've been saying it for weeks. Get a copy of "The Source" from the Student Association or Student Affairs. It's got information on Academic and Grading policies, as well as stuff about all the services and resources available to you through both the Student Association and the college. If you read it, maybe you won't need to come and see me.... (Don't worry, I LIKE people dropping in to talk with me!) I've been here at GBC for over 3 semesters and I still check The Source for answers. So, get it. Knowledge Is Power.

If you don't know, ASK! It's all right to ask questions. In fact, I recommend it. Ask your professors; ask your fellow students. Learning is more effective when you ask questions. It's okay to make a few mistakes too. You'll probably even LEARN from them.

Get organized. And manage your time. (This is MY big project this year.) You can take

workshops at Student Affairs in these and other areas that will benefit you and improve your study skills. Look out for signs about "Quick Tips".

Read, research, and understand all the rules and regulations here at GBC. That way you won't have to come see me. Not that I mind seeing people. I like people....

Relax. Lose the stress. Find some ways to unwind. I build in some time just for pure relaxation with no commitments, not even social events....

Lastly, get to know people. They're a great source of information and support. Talk to fellow students, teachers, staff, your SRC rep, and your Student Association directors. Like all the other SA directors, I have an "open door" policy. I should be at the St. James SA office at least one day a week, and the rest of the time I share an office at Casa Loma with the Health Plan Administrator and the SA Lawyer. It's just off the cafeteria between the Arcade and Get Back Jack's. Drop by and say hi!



George Brown College

<http://www.gbrown.on.ca>

George Brown College Student

Association

<http://www.members.tripod.com/~sagbc>

## DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

by Stephen Flett

Chair of the By-Laws Committee  
sflett@gbrown.on.ca

Our Student Association (SA) is rewriting its by-laws. We want you. (Well, actually, your input...)

The SA Board of Directors will vote on the final draft of the by-laws in October, but the final approval must come from YOU, the Students (our Members.) The Annual General Meeting of the Student Association will be held in November. The Members will be asked to approve the new by-laws at that meeting.

To aid in this democratic process, we will be taking four steps prior to the AGM:

1) Copies of both the old and proposed by-laws will be made available for students' perusal. They should be available at all SA offices by the time this issue of diaLOG comes out.

2) Students' input is encouraged. Please write down any suggestions or objections about the proposed by-laws, and drop them off at any Student Association offices.

3) Copies of the proposed by-laws will also be available on our Web Site at <http://members.tripod.com/~sagbc>. We'll also try to put a copy in an issue of diaLOG should space permit.

4) We will be holding By-Laws Information Sessions with Bill Reid, the SA lawyer, at all campuses. Please attend if you are interested in asking questions about our by-laws, especially if you would like to give some feedback. The schedule follows:

October 7 - 12 PM - Nightingale Student Association Office

October 7 - 2 PM - Hospitality Student Association Office

October 7 - 4 PM - St. James Student Association Office

October 9 - 1 PM - Casa Loma Student Association Office

The By-Laws Committee (Stephen Flett, Jerome Adamo, Wayne Poirier, and Bill Reid) is handling this whole process. Input has been actively sought from the SA Board of Directors, advisors and staff. Now we want YOUR feedback. And don't forget to come out to the Annual General Meeting in November!

Make this Student Association a Democracy!



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## Political Corner

# DEREGULATION

by Jerome Adamo,  
Director of External Affairs

**a**s promised in the last issue, it's me again writing about issues that affect you as a student. This month, I have decided to write about

something that is extremely scary not only to you as a student, but also as a parent brother, sister, uncle aunt etc... This issue, or should I say problem, is called "Deregulation".

Deregulation refers to the governments' process of giving individual post-secondary institutions complete control of tuition fees, without any guidelines or regulations. This means that the Mike Harris government is allowing tuition fees which have been traditionally regulated by government to become no longer a government issue or concern. Instead, the government is saying that the Board of Governors, at each institution, will be authorized to set tuition fees for

1. Post Diploma programs.
2. Programs that are in high demand (sounds like a business term)
3. Programs that offer strong employment prospects (what about the students who don't find work?)
4. Programs that offer high income employment (a high income isn't guaranteed but a high debt load is)

There are also plans to expand this deregulation in Ontario to areas such as high technology fields in 1999-2000. In my view everything with this government has been a test. If they can get away with something, they'll try to cut more.

This would not be a fair article if I didn't give the other side of things. Supporters of deregulation justify massive fee increases by claiming that students in programs that lead to significantly higher incomes after graduation should pay more. However, the majority of these programs slated for deregulation do not, in fact, produce students that will be earning higher incomes after graduation. Statistically, the earning power of these students has more to do with their chosen field of study than with the diploma itself. This is discriminating against those students who

What it means to you, the student.

can not acquire work after graduation as well as those students who pursue less profitable career paths after graduation.

If the government wants to ensure that post secondary education reaps benefits from these potential high money making students, they should not burden the average student with a higher debt load. Instead, they should restructure the income tax system to ensure a more equitable mechanism for financing post-secondary education in Ontario.

Deregulation has nothing to do with providing a more equitable tuition fee structure and everything to do with downloading the cost of education onto the backs of students. Since it has come to power, the Harris government has cut over 15% of college budgets.

Deregulation is a mechanism for the college to gain some of that lost funding back. It is not the colleges' fault. They're just trying to survive tough times through means authorized by the government.

Deregulation magnifies the barriers to post secondary education through even higher tuition fees and greater debt loads for you, the students. As it stands right now, many people look at the cost of a diploma and simply realize that it is not an option that they can afford. I am of the belief that "Education is a right not a privilege". Deregulation creates a two-tiered system, where the only criteria for enrollment in certain programs is based on the student's ability to pay.

You can not overestimate the impact, both real and perceived, of the massive debt load students are being asked to bear upon graduation, nor should anybody rely on unrealistic expectations of future income as a counterbalance to this burden.

I encourage you to join other students from this college, other students across Canada within the Canadian Federation of Students to participate in the "PAN CANADIAN WEEK OF ACTION" October 13-October 16 so that we can become a collective voice to the government and stand up for our rights. Remember, Awareness is one thing, action is another.



**United Parking Services**

366 Adelaide Street, East, Toronto 868-1962

United Parking Services

would like to make the students and staff of George Brown College aware of our surface parking facility in this area. It is on Adelaide, just east of Sherbourne.

### RATES

Each 1/2 hour or part thereof	\$2.00
Daily Maximum	\$6.00
Early Bird (in before 9am, Exit before 6am)	\$5.50
Evening Rate (in after 4pm, Exit before 6am)	\$2.00
Evening Rate (in after 6pm, Exit before 6am)	\$1.00



# cheapDATE

**W**ell, this is my first time writing without "He", who is on sabbatical from movie reviewing. Right now, he is foraging in the wilds of Australia, searching for the wild dingo ...wait, that isn't right. He is actually too engrossed in his job right now to set pen to paper. So, alas, I must go it alone. But fortunately for you, I have seen two movies that I want to tell you about.

## MONICA - THE BOY IS MINE

It's pretty good marketing naming Monica's new album "The Boy Is Mine," with the title song being one of the summer's biggest hits. Each female singer (Monica and Brandy) tries to out-sing the other, and overpower the song's otherwise good melody. The current single "The First Night" (produced and co-written by Jermaine Dupri) is catchy with positive lyrics. The opening song "Street Symphony" rips off its chord progression from "Wild World," but it is forgivable, since the song sounds pretty good. The cover of "Misty Blue" is great, even if it is a carbon copy of Dorothy Moore's 1976 version (stay away from the Engelbert Humperdinck version).

There is also good use of Sting's sample "Shape of My Heart" on "Take Him Back." (Although Nas took better advantage of the sample on his song, "The Message"). The worst tracks on the album (and believe me, they're bad) are the David Foster produced schlock (two of them written by Diane Warren, and the third is an awful cover of Richard Marx's "Right Here Waiting", a shabby song to begin with). Fellow Canadian, David Foster should stick to producing fluff for Celine Dion, because the Foster songs aside, this is a fairly solid effort.

**GRADE: B**

## ACE OF BASE - CRUEL SUMMER

Ace of Base has tried to expand their sound on this album. The only problem is that there are not enough

**54**  
**Starring: Mike Myers, Ryan Phillippe, Salma Hayek and Neve Campbell.**

She said: I wish I had been a bit older in the late '70s. But as a child of 7, I never got the opportunity to do the hustle at New York's trendiest nightclub. After watching "54", I finally realized that I may have lost out on some wild times. "54" tells the story of nightclub-owner extraordinaire Steve Rubell (played brilliantly by Myers), the New York king

of excess and apparently, tax evasion in the late '70s and early '80s. Myers, typically viewed as a comedic actor after



such flicks as "Austin Powers" and "So I Married an Axe Murderer",

portrays Rubell as a man obsessed with providing a highly stimulating atmosphere for his patrons...and himself. This includes sex, drugs and lots of disco. A relative newcomer, Phillippe plays Shane O'Shea, a young man from Jersey looking for a way to break into the nightlife of the highly-charged club. Unfortunately, he loses both his innocence and the respect of his father in the process.

What boggles the mind is the fact that this is all based in reality! Studio 54 was a haven

for actors, artists and common folk looking for action and adventure in the Big Apple. Such bigwigs as Andy Warhol, Truman Capote, Brooke Shields and Sylvester Stallone all frequented the club, so you know that it must have been a happening spot.

If you are looking to find out how the "other half" lived when disco was king, look no further than "54". It has its depressing and "hello...reality-check!" moments, but I think that is what makes this so poignant a story.

**Grade: A**

## Rounders

**Starring: Matt Damon, Edward Norton, Gretchen Mol, John Malkovich and John Turturro.**

She said: Matt Damon is a hunk! That having been said, "Rounders" is an OK movie. Damon plays a young but vastly experienced poker player named Mike McDermott who gives up a chance at a law career to help his friend Worm (Norton) pay off a debt to one of the big boys of gambling, "Teddy KGB". This character is played excellently by Malkovich and can I say I have never seen anyone catch an oreo with such aplomb.

This movie deals with choices. Mike has to decide between a career in law or the highstakes life of a professional "rounder". The only problem with the movie is that Mike's choice does not appear to be one that gives any pause for thought. He breaks up with his girlfriend (played by Mol) and immediately says "Let's play poker". No tears shed there.

What was exciting about this film were the scenes actually dealing with poker. Not being much of a player myself, I thoroughly enjoyed watching Damon stare down his opponents and engage in mental warfare. That type of stuff always amazes me. I also have to give "kudos" to John Turturro who plays one of Damon's mentors, Joey Knish. A fine, understated performance that was one of this movie's best.

**Grade: B**

melodies to support the CD. "Donnie," on one hand, successfully recaptures the sound of '60s pop, while "Always Have, Always Will" tries to sound like Motown(it steals its intro from the Four Tops). Throughout their relatively short career, Ace of Base has been compared to Abba only because they come from the same country. Their previous two CDs sounded nothing like Abba, and the only comparison you could make is that they are both essentially pop bands. With that said, "Cecilia" (not the Simon and Garfunkel hit)

sounds very much like a classic Abba song with its arrangement and vocals. Jenny Berggren also proves to be a fairly adept songwriter with "He Decides." The best songs on the album are the dance tracks. The title track (a note for note remake of the Bananarama version), "Tokyo Girl," and "Travel To Romantics" is when this album really comes alive.

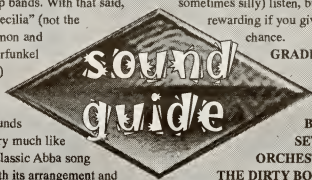
**GRADE: B-**

## RAMMSTEIN - SEHNSUCHT

North America's introduction to Rammstein was by Trent Reznor, adding two of their songs to the David Lynch film Lost Highway. On first listen you might dismiss Rammstein as a German Faith No More, (they sing all their songs in German) since both bands mix heavy metal guitar with lush keyboards. You'd almost expect Mike Patton to start singing on songs like "Befraue

Mich." The current single, "Du Hast" slowly moving up the charts, is one of the dumbest songs, but I can't stop singing it ("Du, Du Hast, Du Hast Mich") "Klavier" mixes progressive-rock and metal with surprisingly good results. "Engel" and "Spiel Mit Mir" are also highlights. The distorted guitar noise on every song can get a little repetitious, but their mixing of techno, industrial, progressive-rock and heavy metal into one form is unique. A difficult (and sometimes silly) listen, but rewarding if you give a chance.

**GRADE: B**



## BRIAN SETZER ORCHESTRA - THE DIRTY BOOGIE

Big Band Swing seems to have made a comeback, so it was the perfect time for Setzer to release this collection of mostly covers (although it may have been a mistake mixing originals in with this collection, since the terrible "Switchblade" can't compare with a song like "Since I Don't Have You."). Still, Setzer does a pretty good job at swing music, a style of music he's changed to recently, after the rockability of the '80s. The two tracks people will be interested in are "Jump Jive and Wail" and "You're the Boss." The first one (The Louis Prima hit, made popular again by the Gap commercial), is extremely catchy and proves that the past can still be popular after 40 years.

"You're the Boss" (an Elvis Presley cover), is sung with Gwen Stefani from No Doubt,

who over sings like usual. "Sleepwalk" is a good instrumental. There is also a swing version of Setzer '80s hit "Rock This Town." (The original is better). Setzer also shows us he can write a good ballad with the samba-flavoured "Hollywood Nocturne."

**GRADE: C+**

## KORN - FOLLOW THE LEADER

Korn, the only band that thinks playing bagpipes is cool, is essentially a cross between Marilyn Manson and Rage Against The Machine without the lyrics. "Freak On a Leash" is one of the few songs that makes it through this mess of an album. "Dead Bodies Everywhere" is about thinking your father (or maybe mother) dead, because "you make me feel like no-one." I assume "All In The Family" is supposed to be funny, with penis jokes and insults using derogatory homosexual slurs.

I guess I do not have a sense of humour. The song "Reclaim my Piece" begins with the line "What the F\_k" and ends with that line repeated ad nauseum. The next song "Justin" begins with the witty lyrics, "F\_k all that bulls\_t." This is the type of music that appeals to young teenage boys who think it is cool to curse and make fun of other people. (If that's the case, Korn is the perfect role model) The first 12 tracks are silent and five seconds long. The first song starts on track 13. (How very clever - Boy these guys are cool!)

**GRADE: D+**



Check out all the reviews on the official He Said She Said web site <http://members.tripod.com/headshd>



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# fortUNES

## ARIES (March 20–April 19)

No, you won't die today. We haven't seen you suffer enough yet. I need to see the blood running from the corner of your mouth before I will be sure. Stay away from people who hit you. Call the police?

## TAURUS (April 20–May 20)

You think I need this kind of bullshit? I don't think so and neither do you. You said you were going to keep your life simple. Well what was that you were saying on the phone? Come on! Do you honestly think anyone will fall for that line?

## GEMINI (May 21–June 20)

Well peace at last. Not everyone has your sense of humour but I sure do. You are brilliant and witty. I foresee an explosive love affair here! Don't look deeply into my eyes, I'm not the one. Never trust a Virgo unless you are always on time.

## CANCER (June 21–July 22)

Someone says that you never read my column. How you know who I am then? I'd be careful about the new friends you keep. Never do anything you feel uncomfortable with especially if it involves handcuffs and being naked. You get my drift? Good, I won't say another word.

## LEO (July 23–August 22)

Sorry I freaked you out last time but I saw dark forces at work. You are safe now because I don't think they will return for some time. Meet new friends, get pissed with them but don't go walking drunk late at night. Someone might just like you sneakers and never try to strike out at someone who obviously very desperate. Give it to them.

## VIRGO (August 23–Sept 22)

So who is this person quoting from the Book of Common Prayer? I'm glad you know him cause the book hasn't been published since 1662 and he smelled very musty. Either a book antiquarian or dead.

## LIBRA (Sept 23–Oct 22)

Travel in yesterday's car and don't forget to wave at your friends. Although you can wax a car, you can never wax it unless it's a full moon. Full damnit!

## SCORPIO (Oct 23–Nov 21)

It's that little voice again. Ever since that trip to Venice you can't quite get away from those sounds. The lapping of water, the quiet giggling of a child, almost anything flashes you back to the serene republic. I woke up early one morning. The sun was splashing over the bed, I turned and you were laying beside me. Oh my God, what have I done?

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22–Dec 20)

Glad to see you've cleaned up the act. Your mom was getting a bit scared when you didn't come home at night. Don't get that tattoo. You'll never keep down that office job with a swastika between your eyebrows. You'll offend everyone and for what? Nazis don't rule.

## CAPRICORN (Dec 21–Jan 19)

I'm feeling better, how about you? The fine haze of autumn makes you face so appealing to everyone. Don't ever try to kiss me! Not everyone wants to be involved. Can't we keep this just a business relationship?

## AQUARIUS (Jan 20–Feb 18)

I've got news. Follow the rules. Don't lie, don't have sex with someone who is married, don't steal, don't covet the possessions of others, don't kill and above all, read no other fortunes than mine.

## PISCES (Feb 19–March 19)

You wear that amethyst like a badge. Your amulet will not save you from fishers who imagine your charms and dream of your inner warmth. The tide is very powerful this month. Beware of the undertow. As the waves break against you avoid the temptations of the mermaids.

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## Private College Closes

By Michael Connors and Mark Tipple  
ST. JOHN'S (CUP)

**A**mbrose Hickey, a student at an aviation school owned by the Career Academy, was looking forward to completing his studies last month. The aircraft maintenance student says he only had five weeks left to go in his program when he was met with an unexpected setback. His school closed down.

"First it was just disbelief," Hickey said. "I mean, Friday morning we wrote a test, and then all of a sudden they say, 'Oh, by the way, your school is closed.'"

Hickey was one of many students and employees at the Academy's 14 campuses in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Ontario, who were displaced by the school's sudden collapse Aug. 14 due to

financial problems.

The closure of the 19-year-old college, one of Newfoundland's oldest and largest privately-run post-secondary training schools, was met with outrage from students who wondered how they'd be able to finish their studies.

Demanding a guarantee that they'd be able to complete their education, about 120 former Career Academy students, including Hickey, spent two weeks camped out on the front lawn of the provincial legislature.

In response, the government arranged for Newfoundland's 1,400 Career Academy students to finish their programs at other schools, while the Career Academy tried to find new investors to take over the college.

Hickey, who was transferred to a public aviation school in nearby Gander, says the

saga has damaged peoples' confidence in privately-run colleges.

"If it can happen to our school after 20 years, what's to say it can't happen to a new school that's only open two years?" he said.

"I've been talking to a lot of people and a lot of people are not considering private colleges as a way to go. Right now there's no stability there as far as a lot of people are concerned."

On the other hand, there are problems with accessibility in the public college system, Hickey adds.

"The main reason I went to a private college is because none of the other campuses could offer what I wanted. Gander could offer it, but there was a three-year waiting list and it's a three-year course," he said. "So that would have been six years, whereas I got in right away with

[the Career Academy] and I should have been finished in 15 months."

But the closure of the Career Academy is just the latest in a series of incidents that have raised questions about private colleges in Newfoundland.

A recent provincial report on post-secondary education found that students who graduated from university or three-year public college programs generally reported higher earnings than students who graduated from one- and two-year private college programs.

The report also found that graduates of university masters and diploma programs and three-year public college programs were more likely to find employment related to their field of study than graduates of shorter private and public college programs.



# elvisLOG

Day 103

here are in Pharit, Texas (pop. 103), now 102 cause the gas jockey said his ol' man just died.

I'm sitting in the Word Watch Cyber Cafe getting my e-mail. Ever wonder why a town with a population dwindling under a hundred, and not a computer literati in sight might have a café where you can get on the Internet? My traveling companion who first said he wished to be known as Festis, now insisting on Too Tall, thinks it might have something to do with the town's proximity to the shallowest stretch of the Rio Grande. All the wet backs seem to come here and boy do they post the weirdest letters. "Mi nombre es Fidel y la maleta encuentra en las casa de Pepe." The washroom is kinda messy even by Texas standards. Shift covered condoms litter the floor and the vending machine sells Preparation H™ and Acacia.

Anyway, my editor suggests in his latest e-missive that I review the story so far, as many of you are now returning to George Brown College and may have missed huge chunks of the action. We are a couple of GBC students who one day just before finals last semester decided to take a road trip into the American heartland to check out all those Elvis sightings we read about in the supermarket tabs. We started out in our Magic wagon™ and first hit the Midwest. I can see why People see a lot of Elvis's out there cause it's kinda like the X-files© on Quaaludes™. We've

been making out way down south and when we got to Memphis, we had a bit of a problem with the law. Cut to the chase: We ended up with a Ford™ Diesel tow truck and our Magic wagon due to a misunderstanding with the Tennessee Highway Patrol. We've dumped the Magic wagon, as we discovered that we don't have to squeeze windshield to make cash when you have a tow truck.

Our Graphic Design course at GBC has helped us fashion a half-decent "Too Tall Towing" logo for the truck door. We make at least fifty bucks a call and we are getting pretty good at used the CB radio to monitor but the Smokey. We chose Texas cause someone told us that it's the only state in the union that doesn't honour other states extradition treaties.

Day 108

Took a swim over to Mexico last evening. Too Tall said he wanted riz con pollo and a Cabaza Negro©. We stripped naked in the moonlight and held our clothes over our heads as we waded across the river into Mexico. On the other shore I discovered he wanted cabeza all right but it wasn't black, kind of a pale fleshy colour in the moonlight. After, we walked into the town of San Miguel. Sure enough there was a little Cantina still open serving beautiful chicken and rice. As the yet to be dispatched chickens pecked around us on the patio, we stared out across the big river. Moonlight tickled its highlights and the shadows had all the intensity of maximum black. I started talking to TT.

Could we keep one step ahead of the law? Would we be watching TV on Saturday and see ourselves in some fuzzy gas station video surveillance tape on America's Most Wanted?©

I don't think I would have hung with this guy for so long if he didn't have a sensitive side. After all, we both had seen Elvis once, perhaps it was time to sell the tow truck for just enough for a Greyhound to Toronto and a little bit of sanity. Our tet et tet was interrupted at this point by loud engine noises. I looked over to see a sweat team running into position. Overhead lights from a helicopter indicated a Bell™ with one of those heat-sensitive cameras. We said nothing. We did nothing. We continued to hold hands and peer deeply into each other's eyes.

Smart move as it turns out, as they were after drug smugglers not reverse wetbacks. After awhile we paid the bill and walked back to the river. I know it sounds kinda goofy, but we held hands as we talked and as we waded naked in the moonlight, with the blue light against my wet skin L...Shit! Why do I bother writing this stuff?

Day 114

I awoke to the scream of heat bugs. When you wake up and hear them you know it's gonna be hot. Since we gave up the Magic wagon, I've been sleeping in the cab of the Ford Diesel and Too Tall under the truck, especially during tarantula season. We are at a rest stop on the Interstate and we are looking for punters. Battery problems? No problem

here, we tow them to Modern Garage and get the fifty plus an extra five for going to the Modern. Of course we are AAA© approved. Just pay us, then claim your receipt to the triple A.

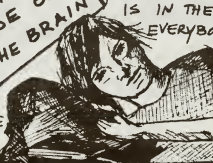
Some old guy in an aging Caddie™ is pulled over to the side of the Interstate. Steam is rising from his radiator. It's 10am and it's 103F. He claws for the comfort of our air-conditioned cab. "Your not a dream, you're an angel," he incants as he climbs in. Too Tall is suffering from the 26 ounce flu, so I do the talking. "Not from around here?" I try to start a conversation while he's under the hook. "No Mam," he says politely. I try to start it up again. "What parts a you from?" "Well," He looks at me with deep hazel eyes, his full black hair showing just a touch of gray on the sideburns and the temple and with a smile an orthodontist would mortgage his house for he says. "Ah was born in East Tupelo, Mississippi. Right now I make my headquarters in Memphis"

We dropped that stranger off at Modern, and I wondered why I had been so attracted to him. He was just some old guy, maybe in his early sixties. He was in pretty good shape and didn't have that Molson© muscle we know about back in Moosemen. When I get wet for an octogenarian it's time to head off back to T.O.

**HOW TO? TURN ON YOUR RIGHT SIDE OF THE BRAIN**

\*TIPS FOR GRAPHIC DESIGN STUDENTS & OTHER CREATIVE MINDS

GET SLEEP 6 HOURS (AT LEAST ON WEEKEND) WITH YOUR SKETCHBOOK UNDER THE PILLOW (TEDDY BEARS ARE OUT). YOU'LL BE SURPRISED OF YOUR DREAMS SKETCH IT DOWN. MAKE SURE YOU'RE COMPUTER IS TURNED ON WHILE YOU'RE SLEEPING. IF THE COMPUTER IS IN THE OTHER ROOM, TELL EVERYBODY ABOUT THE PLAN, SO THEY WON'T THINK IT'S SOME GHOST IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT READING THEIR E-MAILS.




**VIEWER DISCRETION IS ADVISED**


EVERY TIME YOU WANT TO THROW SOMETHING IN THE GARBAGE LOOK AT IT FIRST. YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF COLLECTING EVERYTHING & ANYTHING. MAKE SURE EVERYBODY IN THE HOUSE KNOWS THAT ALL THE GARBAGE UNDER THE BED IS YOUR ART REFERENCE! OTHERWISE NIGHT BE CLEANED OUT.

**STAY COOL & OBSERVE AROUND YOURSELF.**

OBSERVING, YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF SKETCHING. FIRST STEP IS SUBWAY. IF YOU'RE SHY, SUNG MIGHT HELP. GET USED & PREPARED TO QUESTIONS LIKE: "ARE U AN ARTIST?" "GRRRR--" "NO, I'M JUST DOING A FAVOR FOR A FRIEND."



**WHEN YOUR IDEA IS DRIVING YOU NUTS SPEAK IT LOUD. BRAINSTORMING WITH OTHER PEOPLE IS GOOD FOR TURNING ON**



SPEND FEW MINUTES, HOURS, DAYS IN LIBRARY, BOOKSTORE, CONVENIENCE STORE, ETC. DON'T JUST GO INTO ART SECTION; IF YOU'RE JUST THERE FOR TURNING ON YOUR CREATIVITY, DON'T GO THERE AT ALL, YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF LOST.

**KEEP ALL THE GOOD PEOPLE, WHO WON'T THINK YOU'RE WEIRD, AROUND YOU. YOU'LL NEED THEIR LOVE, SUPPORT & UNDERSTANDING AFTER FEW MOVIE TICKETS. I KEPT MY BOYFRIEND PROBABLY THOUGHT HOW "IN LOVE" I AM. AFTER SEEING ME PICKING UP FROM THE FLOOR OTHER PEOPLE'S TICKETS, HE GOT THE POINT. NOW, EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED HAD TO BE ON HIS WAY IS IN MY ROOM.**

**BE (SOMEHOW) ORGANIZED. MAYBE YOU'LL NEED MORE SPACE AS I DO...**

